

CASE TITLE: United States v. McClain, et al.  
CASE NUMBER: 20 CR 812  
ACTIVITY: Telephone Conversation between Michael McClain  
and Fidel Marquez  
DATE: May 23, 2018  
TIME: 10:15 a.m.  
TARGET PHONE: (217) 257-6280  
SESSION NUMBER: 3204

SPEAKERS: McCLAIN = Michael McClain  
MARQUEZ = Fidel Marquez

\* \* \* \*

1 MARQUEZ: Hey Michael.  
2  
3 McCLAIN: Hi Fidel. How are you?  
4  
5 MARQUEZ: I'm good. Did you get my cryptic message?  
6  
7 McCLAIN: About [redacted]?  
8  
9 MARQUEZ: Yeah.  
10  
11 McCLAIN: Yep.  
12  
13 MARQUEZ: So, I get a call from [redacted]. You  
14 know who she is? At [redacted].  
15  
16 McCLAIN: I, I know of her. I don't know—  
17  
18 MARQUEZ: Okay.  
19  
20 McCLAIN: —her.  
21  
22 MARQUEZ: Yeah, a n—, nice lady. Um, she, uh, called me, "Hey,  
23 hey, have you heard of a [redacted]?" and uh, I, she  
24 kept calling me back and I call but I kinda figured  
25 out what was goin' on. I says, "Yeah." I says, uh,  
26 "Yeah, he's done some real estate work with us." And  
27 she's like, "Well, you think he's competent?" I says,  
28 "Yes. Highly professional, very competent on what we  
29 used him on."  
30  
31 McCLAIN: Mmmhmm.  
32  
33 MARQUEZ: And she goes, "Hmm." She goes, "Well we're gettin'  
34 pushed really hard and if someone's that good, why  
35 would they push someone that hard cause they're that  
36 good?" I says, "[redacted], you know how this works,

37 right?"  
38  
39 McCLAIN: (Laughs.) Oh, how funny. Huh?  
40  
41 MARQUEZ: And uh, she goes, and I explained this, said, "Look,  
42 um, just because someone is recommending someone, no  
43 matter how hard, um, the, uh, doesn't mean, doesn't,  
44 should not question the person's competency or not.  
45 Right?"  
46  
47 McCLAIN: (Unintelligible.)  
48  
49 MARQUEZ: "Cause," I said, "Rarely have I gotten a  
50 recommendation of someone, um, that has not been  
51 competent that's come from, you know, um, uh, people  
52 with high, with their own high ethic standards.  
53 (Laughs) With their, with their own high standards."  
54  
55 McCLAIN: Mmhmm.  
56  
57 MARQUEZ: So, I said uh, "You know, you guys need to evaluate  
58 this, but, uh, uh, this is obviously important and you  
59 guys oughta consider it."  
60  
61 McCLAIN: Good. Perfect.  
62  
63 MARQUEZ: So, that's, that was my message to her.  
64  
65 McCLAIN: Yeah, well done. Well done.  
66  
67 MARQUEZ: And she said, "Got it," but just wanna let you know  
68 about that.  
69  
70 McCLAIN: Well, and not everybody en-, likes gettin' the, the  
71 calls, right?  
72  
73 MARQUEZ: Yeah, I don't know if any, I don't know if anybody  
74 likes it, but people need to understand how, what's  
75 behind all this.  
76  
77 McCLAIN: Right. Right. Yep.  
78  
79 MARQUEZ: I says, "And maybe sometime, and maybe one day you'll  
80 have an ask and this will be remembered."  
81  
82 McCLAIN: Right. Exactly.  
83  
84 MARQUEZ: (Laughs.)  
85  
86 McCLAIN: So, it all comes—

87  
88 MARQUEZ: Anyway.  
89  
90 McCLAIN: -around, right?  
91  
92 MARQUEZ: I, I just wanted to uh, make you aware of that, um,  
93 so-  
94  
95 McCLAIN: Right.  
96  
97 MARQUEZ: -you understand the full circle of conversations here.  
98  
99 McCLAIN: Yep. Thanks.  
100  
101 (END OF PERTINENT CONVERSATION)